



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 11770US03

In the Application of:

AINSWORTH et al.

Serial No. 09/143,503

Filed: August 28, 1998

Patent No. 5,554,121

Issued: September 10, 1996

For: INTRALUMINAL CATHETER WITH
HIGH STRENGTH PROXIMAL
SHAFT

Examiner: J. Yasko Jr.

Group Art Unit: 3763

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 7, 1999.

By: George Wheeler
George Wheeler
Reg. No. 28,766

**DECLARATION AS TO LOSS OF LETTERS PATENT
(37 C.F.R. § 1.178)**

I, Tim L. Kitchen, a patent attorney for Guidant Corporation (the parent of Advanced Cardiovascular Systems, Inc., Santa Clara, California, the assignee of the present patent), hereby declare that the original U.S. Patent No. 5,554,121, granted to Ainsworth et al. on September 10, 1996, has been either lost or destroyed, that I have made a diligent search for said original patent in all places where the same would probably be found, if existing, and that I have not been able to find it.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true;

and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: 12/2/99

T. L. Kitchen

Tim L. Kitchen

Filed by
McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.
34th Floor
500 West Madison Street
Chicago, IL 60651
(312) 707-8889